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Blog + Grounds

DD/MAS 73-2776

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1 1 JUL 1973

Ms. Nancy Hanks
Chairman, Federal Council
on the Arts and the Humanities
806 15th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20506

Management and Services

Dear Ms. Hanks:

Thank you for your letter of June 13, 1973 to Dr. Schlesinger. We appreciate receiving a copy of The Design Necessity Casebook. It is very illustrative of attractive designs and a useful product of the First Federal Design Assembly. I have forwarded the casebook to our Fine Arts Commission for information and future guidance.

I heartily endorse your efforts in making us all more aware of effective design programs.

Vernon A. Walters
Lieutenant General, USA
Acting Director

HAROLD L. BROWNMAN
Deputy Director

for

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DD/M&S 73-2755: Ltr dtd Jun 13, 1973 fr Nancy Hanks to DCI re success of assembly held in April '73

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June 13, 1973

Dear Director Schlesinger:

The First Federal Design Assembly for Federal administrators and designers, held in early April at President Nixon's request, generated a great deal of enthusiasm and favorable press response.

The major conclusion drawn by those participating in the Assembly is that the success of the Federal Design Improvement initiatives depends in large part on the personal commitment and support of the Government's highest administrators. Therefore, I plan to make every effort to keep you and your staff informed and to elicit, on occasion, your assistance.

The Assembly is one of the Government's four programs to improve the design quality of Federal buildings and publications. The first one presented a clear and compelling view of design as a necessary component of the decision making process. I am enclosing a copy of The Design Necessity Casebook of Federally initiated projects which illustrates why "effective design of public services is itself an essential public service." The Casebook's introduction will be of particular interest to you because it explains the relationships between design and performance criteria applicable to all Federal agencies.

The comments from Federal administrators attending the Assembly, including several from the Central Intelligence Agency have been overwhelmingly positive. They view the Assembly as a significant beginning for continuing the dialogue about the importance and relevance of design to their agencies. As plans for the Second Federal Design Assembly and other design awareness programs for Federal administrators are developed, I will be in touch with you.

My best,

Sincerely,

Nancy Hanks Chairman

Enclosure

James R. Schlesinger Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505